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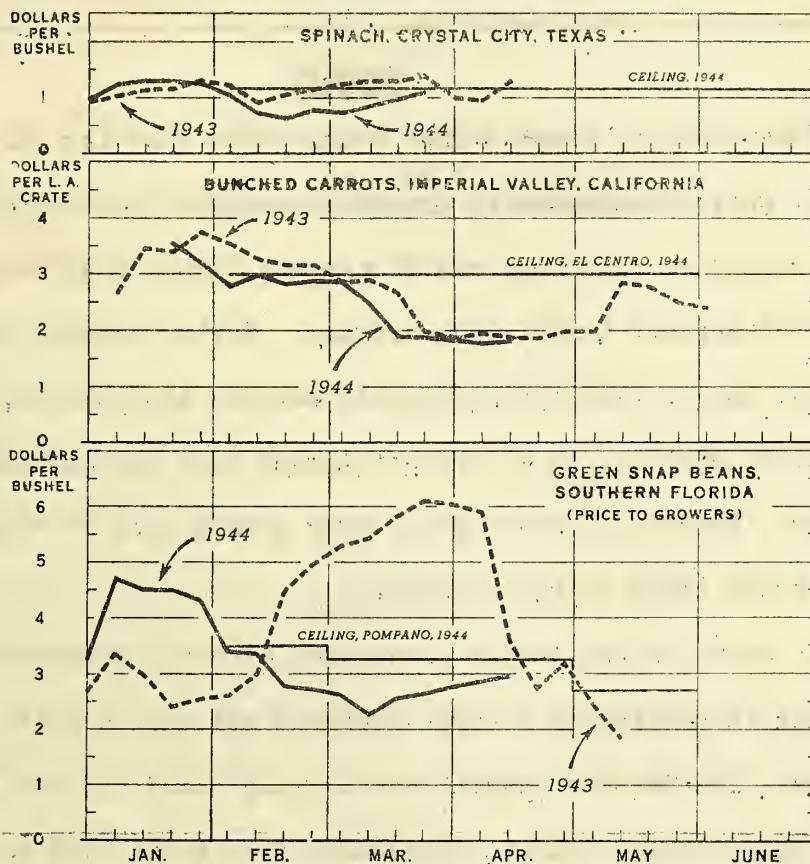
SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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APRIL 1944

SPINACH, CARROTS, AND SNAP BEANS: PRICES AT SPECIFIED SHIPPING POINTS, WINTER AND SPRING, 1943 AND 1944, AND CEILING PRICES, 1944



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. 43571

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Prices for spinach, carrots, and snap beans at country shipping points have been substantially lower during the late winter and early spring seasons of 1944 than a year earlier -- principally the result of increased supplies but also of ceiling prices placed in effect January 31, 1944. Prices of these three vegetables fell below ceiling levels the first week the regulation was in effect. Prices for spinach continued to decline, remaining substantially below ceiling levels during most of February and March. Prices of carrots remained at about the ceiling level until mid-March, but then declined far below the ceiling. Prices for snap beans declined substantially below the ceiling levels by mid-February, advancing toward the ceiling in recent weeks.

 THE VEGETABLE SITUATION

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Summary

Production of fresh market truck crops thus far this year and in prospect this spring considerably exceeds comparable production last year. Winter season production this year was 36 percent larger than the winter crop last year and 52 percent larger than average. Spring acreage reported to date is 24 percent larger than the comparable acreage last spring. Spring production, estimated to April 1, is 16 percent larger than the corresponding production last year. Frosts and heavy rains over a wide area of the South in April damaged truck crops to some extent.

In spite of the larger production of early vegetables forecast, the Department is continuing to urge everyone who can to grow a Victory garden this year. The War Food Administration has asked canners to set aside 40 percent of their average annual production from their 1944 pack of canned vegetables for war use. Difficulties of transportation and labor at canneries suggest the wisdom of home gardens, as the surest means of having the kind of vegetables at the time they are wanted.

Prices received by farmers for fresh market truck crops declined moderately from early January to early February, and then declined slightly to early March in contrast to a sharp advance a year earlier. Prices, in general, strengthened since early March, but as of April 15 were lower than a year earlier.

Intentions reports of processors indicate a 3 percent increase in acreage of 9 vegetables for processing in 1944 compared with 1943, although short of the goal. The indicated acreages of the 4 principal processing vegetables expressed as percentages of the 1943 planted acreage are as follows: Snap beans, 96.1 percent; green peas, 102.5 percent; sweet corn, 101.5 percent; and tomatoes, 104.4 percent. Prices for 9 processing vegetables are to be supported at levels equal to or slightly above those of 1943.

Supplies of white potatoes, consisting of old stock and new potatoes, continue ample. Plantings of commercial early potatoes are indicated to be 5.5 percent larger than last year. Prospective plantings of the entire 1944 crop, however, are indicated to be 7.3 percent smaller than the 1943 planted acreage, and about 10 percent smaller than the 1944 goal. Recent prices for old-stock potatoes have been mostly at support levels, reflecting the large stocks remaining on hand. Prices for the 1944 crop will be supported by a Government program similar to the one for the 1943 crop, but the support level will be slightly higher.

Prospective plantings of sweetpotatoes are indicated to be about equal to the 898,000 acres planted in 1943. Prices for this year's crop will be supported by Government, primarily through loans at rates slightly higher than those for the 1943 crop. Recent prices for sweetpotatoes of the 1943 crop have been at or near ceiling levels.

Prospective acreages in 1944 of dry edible beans and dry field peas are each about 7 percent smaller than the respective 1943 acreages. Prices for the new crops will be supported by the Government at levels substantially the same as those for the 1943 crops.

-- April 27, 1944

TRUCK CROPS FOR FRESH MARKET SHIPMENT

Winter Season Production of Commercial
Fresh Market Truck Crops at Record
High Level in 1944

Aggregate commercial production of 17 winter season truck crops for fresh market shipment now is estimated at 1,391,389 tons -- the largest on record, 36 percent above the corresponding production of 1943, and 52 percent larger than the 10-year (1933-42) average. Acreage in these crops in 1944 was 27 percent larger than the near-average acreage of 1943. Production of only three winter truck crops, artichokes, eggplant, and shallots, was smaller this year than last. The lima bean, carrot, and escarole crops were approximately equal to those of the 1943 winter season. Winter season production of cabbage, compared with that of last year, increased by 80 percent; and production of lettuce, spinach, and celery by 16, 30, and 35 percent, respectively. Marketings of winter truck crops now are largely completed.

Prospective Spring Season Production
Also Substantially Larger this
Year than last

Aggregate production of the spring season commercial truck crops estimated to April 1 is indicated to be 16 percent larger than corresponding production in 1943, and 25 percent larger than the 10-year (1933-42) average production. Crops included in these estimates accounted for about two-thirds of the total spring season production last year. Spring acreages estimated to date are about 24 percent above those of 1943, and are 10 percent above average. The intended summer acreage of watermelons is 50 percent larger than the summer acreage harvested in 1943, but 16 percent below average.

Production of individual spring truck crops for fresh market shipment, expressed as a percentage of the 1943 crop, is indicated as follows: Early spring cucumbers, 197 percent; spring eggplant, 171; early spring onions, 165; early spring tomatoes, 155; spring green peppers, 129; early spring lettuce, 126; spring celery, 121; early spring cabbage, 116; spring shallots, 107; spring cauliflower, 106; early spring snap beans, 105; spring spinach, 105; early spring asparagus, 101; spring beets, 101; early spring green peas, 96; midspring snap beans, 88; and spring carrots, 65 percent. These estimates are as of April 1. During the first part of April frosts and heavy rains over a wide area extending from North Carolina to Florida on the Atlantic Coast and westward to Arkansas and Louisiana damaged truck crops to some extent. Therefore, spring production of some of the truck crops, particularly the less hardy crops such as cucumbers, snap beans, and watermelons, may be somewhat smaller than indicated April 1.

Prices Since Mid-February at Lower
Level in 1944 than in 1943

During January and early February of 1944, prices received by farmers for truck crops were at a slightly higher level than in 1943. Prices from mid-February to mid-March, however, declined slightly this year in contrast

to the sharp increase in prices during the same period of 1943. The index of truck crop prices (unadjusted seasonally) was 242 for March 1944 compared with an index of 326 for March 1943.

During the last half of March and first half of April, f.o.b. prices at representative shipping points increased for snap beans, beets, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, lettuce, old stock onions, and spinach; remained at about the same level for carrots and beets; and declined for new onions, peppers, and tomatoes. For the week ended April 15, 1944, these prices were higher for onions and spinach, but lower for the others than similar prices for the second week of April 1943.

The lower prices the latter part of this winter season and thus far during the spring season compared with a year earlier are the result principally of larger supplies and, to a lesser extent, of the specific price ceilings placed on truck crops since a year ago.

Specific Price Ceilings for Truck Crops,
Maximum Price Regulation 426

Cabbage and lettuce were placed under specific dollar-and-cent ceilings on July 20, 1943 (MPR 426 as of July 10, 1943, and later amendments). For lettuce, a basing point price is provided at Salinas, California, and the ceiling at wholesale and terminal markets is the basing point price plus freight from Salinas, regardless of the origin of the shipment. For cabbage, maximum prices are set for sales to any person other than the ultimate consumer as determined by freight rates from basing point markets. These basing point markets vary, depending on the market receiving shipment and on the month.

Under Amendment 18 to MPR 426, maximum prices were established at all levels of distribution, except for sales by retailers, for carrots, spinach, green peas, snap beans (green and wax), eggplant, sweet peppers, and cucumbers. The basis for prices at the several levels of distribution, not including retailer, is a maximum f.o.b. shipping point price at a specified basing point or points. Sales by retailers are covered under MPR 422 and 423. Amendment 18 to MPR 426 became effective January 31, 1944, as to maximum prices, f.o.b. shipping point, and February 15, 1944, as to all other maximum prices.

Ceiling Prices in 1944 Generally Somewhat
Lower than Prices Prevailing in 1943

The maximum prices now in effect are expected to result in substantially lower prices for eggplant, cucumbers, and peppers in 1944 than those prevailing in 1943. Ceiling prices on lettuce and cabbage are lower than prices during the first half of 1943. The maximum prices for carrots, spinach, green peas, and snap beans in 1944 are lower in some months and higher in others than those of last year.

During early April, cabbage, carrots, and green peppers were selling substantially below the ceiling price level, snap beans and lettuce were selling somewhat below the ceiling level, and onions, spinach, green peas, and

cucumbers were selling at or near ceiling prices. Considering prospective supplies and the maximum price regulations now in effect, it seems probable that the general level of prices for truck crops during this spring season will be lower than last spring.

Snap Beans

A 1944 winter season commercial snap bean crop of 2,250,000 bushels was produced -- a crop 22 percent larger than the winter crop of 1943 and 9 percent above the 10-year (1933-42) average. Harvesting is now under way in the early spring areas, where production as of April 1 was indicated to be 2,408,000 bushels, approximately 5 percent larger than for the same period last year but 26 percent larger than average. The 1944 midspring crop, however, is estimated to be only 1,847,000 bushels or about 12 percent smaller than that of 1943.

Prices for snap beans f.o.b. Florida shipping points have been lower this season than last, except in January. They were substantially lower in late February and early March of this season than the relatively high prices during the same months of 1943, when supplies were short. Prices since early February have been considerably below ceilings. However, the market has strengthened in recent weeks approaching the ceiling level, and in view of the prospective supply situation, probably will remain in this stronger position for the next few weeks.

Cabbage

Market supplies of cabbage have been at record high levels since early in the winter season. January 1 stocks of old crop cabbage were small. The winter season cabbage crop, however, now is estimated at 502,200 tons, 80 percent larger than in 1943 and 95 percent above the 1933-42 average. A part of this crop was diverted to processing for sauerkraut. The early spring cabbage crop is estimated to be approximately 16 percent larger this year than last, but 22 percent below average. Shipments from the winter areas continue large but during the next few weeks an increasing share of shipments will originate in the early spring areas.

Prices for 1944 crop cabbage have been at a relatively low level since early this year, in contrast to the high prices of 1943. Growers received an average price of about \$23.00 per ton of cabbage during the first half of March this year compared with an average price of \$86.80 per ton in March 1943. Prices since January have been far below the ceiling price level. The market for cabbage strengthened considerably during the first half of April. An increase in price is probable as marketings of cabbage from winter season areas decrease.

Carrots

Winter season commercial production of carrots for fresh shipment now is estimated at 7,760,000 bushels, a crop approximately equal to that of the 1943 winter season and 89 percent above the 1933-42 average. The 1944 prospective spring season production of 3,759,000 bushels, although above average is 35 percent smaller than the spring crop of 1943. An increasing percentage

of all commercial market supplies shipped during the next few weeks will come from the spring producing areas of California and Arizona.

Prices for carrots f.o.b. shipping points in Arizona, California, and Texas were at a higher level in January of this year than last. Such prices in February, March, and early April of 1944, however, were considerably lower than a year earlier in Texas and slightly lower in Arizona and California. They have been considerably below ceiling prices since February. In view of the smaller spring crop in prospect, prices for carrots during the next few weeks probably will advance from the early April level.

Lettuce

Winter season commercial lettuce production in 1944 is estimated to be 6,613,000 crates, the second largest crop on record, and 16 percent larger than the winter crop of 1943. Prospective early spring production this year totals 8,283,000 crates or 26 percent above the comparable crop of a year earlier. Plentiful supplies of lettuce, therefore, appear in prospect for April and early May.

Since early February, prices for lettuce at country shipping points have been substantially below those of a year ago and below price ceilings. The market has strengthened in recent weeks, however, despite continuing large supplies. During the next few weeks prices seem most likely to remain at this higher level.

Onions

Market supplies of onions have been small thus far this season. Stocks of onions in storage January 1, 1944, (supplying most of the marketings until about mid-April) totaled 2,817,000 sacks of 100 pounds each. This was only two-thirds the stocks of a year earlier and the smallest since January 1, 1932. A large part of these stocks was not available for the civilian market.

Early spring production of onions in 1944 (south Texas) is estimated to be 2,824,000 bags (100 pounds). This is about 65 percent larger than comparable production last year and 64 percent larger than the 10-year (1933-42) average. The prospective acreage of late spring onions in 1944 is 7 percent below that harvested a year ago, but above average. The intended acreage of summer season onions is 33 percent above the harvested summer acreage of 1943, and also above average. Shipments of early onions now are moving to market in large volume, and supplies during the next few weeks are expected to be plentiful.

Prices (country shipping points) for old stock onions to date in 1944 have been approximately at ceiling levels, and about 10 percent above those of a year earlier. Maximum prices f.o.b. country shipping points were established April 1, 1944, for early onions of the 1944 crop (RMPR 271, Amendment 12). These prices range from \$2.65 per 50 pounds for the period March 20 to May 15 to \$2.35 per 50 pounds for the period June 16 to July 15. Ceiling prices are from 25 to 75 cents higher per 50 pounds than those that

were in effect on the early 1943 crop. Certain differentials based on kind and size of onion, and on container and packing are applicable to the f.o.b. prices quoted above.

VEGETABLES FOR PROCESSING

Large Part of 1944 Canned Pack to be Reserved for the Government

The War Food Administration on February 11, 1944, announced the basic and contingency reserves canners must set aside from their 1944 vegetable packs for sale and delivery to Government agencies (FDO 22.6). The total set-aside announced will require approximately 98 million equivalent cases of 24 No. 2 cans. This exceeds the set-aside for vegetable packs in 1943 (FDO 22.4 as amended August 19, 1943) by about 38 million cases. It would require about one-half of the total pack of the 14 vegetables included by the order if the 1944 pack should be about equal to the 2-year average, 1942 and 1943, pack. The greatly increased reservation is considered necessary principally because of expanded military requirements arising from the larger number of men overseas.

Prices to be Supported in 1944 for 9 Vegetables for Processing

To encourage maximum production of the principal processing vegetables in order to meet the large requirements in prospect, prices for 9 processing vegetables will be supported by the War Food Administration in 1944. Prices to growers for snap beans, sweet corn, green peas, tomatoes, beets, carrots, lima beans, and spinach will be supported through price supporting contracts by certified canners with growers. To effectuate the program, the War Food Administration will accept all quantities of the 1944 canned pack of these products offered to it by certified canners. The acceptance price for these canned products will be at a level equivalent to 86.5 percent of the canners' gross civilian ceiling prices.

The support prices announced for 1944 are at about the same levels for the United States as those of 1943 except for average increases of approximately \$5.00 per ton for lima beans, \$1.00 per ton for tomatoes, \$2.00 per ton for green peas (with adjustment made in support price for services rendered to growers by canners), and some adjustments by areas. Ranges in support prices per ton (field-run basis), varying by crop areas, follow: Snap beans, \$80 - \$110; lima beans, \$95 - \$120; beets, \$19 - \$21; carrots, \$20 - \$22; sweet corn, \$17 - \$28; tomatoes, \$24 - \$29; and green peas, \$71 - \$91. Specific support programs for spinach and for cabbage for kraut have not yet been announced.

Allocation of Metal Containers for Canned Vegetables in 1944

Allocation of cans for the 1944 vegetable packs is somewhat liberalized as compared with 1943 (WFB order M-81, January 3, 1944). Unlimited quantities of cans (with certain exceptions as to kind of pack, size of can, can material

and meeting quotas for FDO 22) are to be permitted for asparagus, green or wax beans, fresh shelled beans, fresh sweet cut corn, peas and carrots combination, succotash, mixed vegetables, green peas, tomatoes, tomato juice, tomato juice containing not more than 30 percent of other vegetable juices, tomato sauce, tomato paste, and tomato pulp and puree. Limited can allocations for other vegetable packs are as follows: Beans (from dried beans), total pack in 1944 in cans and glass not to exceed by weight 50 percent of 1941 pack; beets, 120 percent of 1942 pack; carrots, 150 percent of 1942 pack; okra, 100 percent of 1943 pack; tomatoes and okra combination, 100 percent of 1943 pack; total pumpkin and squash, 100 percent of 1943 pack; sweetpotatoes including yams, 150 percent of 1943 pack; spinach, 100 percent of 1942 pack; other green leafy vegetables (beet, collard, dandelion, kale, mustard, poke, and turnip greens), 100 percent of 1942 pack; pimientos, 50 percent of 1942 pack; and tomato catsup, WFO 22 (Government reservation). Increased allocations of cans in 1944 compared with 1943 are made for beans (from dried beans), beets, carrots, peas and carrots, succotash, mixed vegetables, sweetpotatoes, spinach, other greens, and pimientos.

Acreage Intentions for Processing Crops in 1944

Reports by processors on intended plantings of vegetables for processing in 1944 indicate a small increase in aggregate acreage this year compared with last. This increased acreage, however, probably will fall short of meeting the suggested goal of 2,210,000 acres for 11 vegetables, a goal 5 percent larger than the plantings of 2,097,750 acres in 1943. The indicated acreage would be substantially above average. Reports on acreage at this time are based on processors' intentions to pack and should not be interpreted as the 1944 planted acreages of these crops.

Should the intended acreages be planted, a normal acreage abandonment occur, and yields be in line with the 1938-42 average (yields in 1943 were considerably below this 5-year average), aggregate production of vegetables for processing would be considerably larger in 1944 than in 1943. Assuming such a production and considering the Government set-aside from the 1944 pack, it now appears that the civilian per capita supply of processed vegetables may be from 5 to 10 percent smaller during the marketing year 1944-45 than the quantity consumed during 1943-44.

Table 1.- Vegetables for processing: Intended plantings, 1944, with comparisons

Vegetables	Planted		1944 as a	
	acreage		percentage of	
	Average :	1943 :	Indicated:	Average :
	1933-42 :	1943 :	1944 :	1933-42 :
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Percent
Beans, snap	69,980	174,600	167,820	239.8
Beets	11,670	19,100	19,670	168.6
Cabbage for kraut	1/ 9,560	1/ 10,940	1/ 10,280	107.5
Corn, sweet	378,130	550,810	559,150	147.9
Cucumbers for pickles	96,360	96,460	102,120	106.0
Peas, green	333,600	485,060	497,400	149.1
Pimientos	14,520	10,990	10,240	70.5
Spinach, California,	:			
and Texas	17,400	13,130	2/ 20,450	117.5
Tomatoes	449,400	600,730	627,060	139.5
Total, 9 vegetables	1,380,620	1,961,820	2,014,190	145.9

1/ Contract acreage. 2/ Planted acreage.

Green peas

Intentions reports by processors indicate an acreage of green peas for canning and freezing of 497,400 acres in 1944. This is 2.5 percent larger than the planted acreage in 1943 and 49 percent above the 10-year (1933-42) average (table 1). A large increase in acreage is indicated for the North Atlantic region, principally in New York, where adverse weather prevailed last season. The largest decrease is in the South Atlantic region. Production on the basis of the intended acreage, a normal acreage abandonment of 7 percent, and yields approximating the 1938-42 average of 1,833 pounds per acre, would be about 3 percent larger this year than last.

Snap beans

Processors, as of late March 1944, planned for 167,820 acres of snap beans (table 1). This is about 4 percent smaller than the plantings last year, but 140 percent above the 1933-42 average. Moderate increases are indicated for the North Atlantic and Western regions and decreases in the South Central and South Atlantic regions. The tonnage of snap beans for processing would be 6 percent larger this season than last, assuming the intended acreage is planted, a normal acreage abandonment of about 6 percent occurs, and yields are about equal to the 1938-42 average of 1.75 tons per acre.

Sweet corn

An increase in planted acreage of sweet corn for canning and freezing of about 1.5 percent over that of 1943 is indicated by processors' plans in late March. Substantial increases are indicated for New York in the North Atlantic region and for Wisconsin in the North Central region. Production would total about 17 percent larger than the crop of last year, assuming 559,150 acres to be planted, average acreage abandonment of 6 percent, and a 1938-42 average yield of 2.55 tons per acre (table 1).

Tomatoes

In early April, processors' intentions indicated plantings of 627,060 acres of tomatoes for processing in 1944, an acreage 4.4 percent larger than the planted acreage last season and 39.5 percent larger than the 1933-42 average (table 1). Substantial increases in acreage are indicated for the North Atlantic and Western regions, principally in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Colorado and California, and decreases in acreage for the South Central region, largely in Arkansas and Tennessee. The intended acreage with a normal acreage abandonment of about 6 percent and yields approaching the 1938-42 average of 5.4 tons per acre would produce a processing crop about 20 percent larger than last season's.

Other Processing Crops

The prospective acreage of beets for processing, 19,670 acres, is 3 percent larger than last season's, and that of cucumbers for pickles, 102,120 acres, is 5.9 percent larger than in 1943 (table 1). The intended acreage of pimientos, 10,240 acres, is 6.8 percent smaller than last season's, and the prospective contract acreage of cabbage for kraut, 10,280 acres, is 6 percent smaller than in 1943.

Reported production of spinach for processing in California and Texas is estimated to be 67,400 tons, or two-thirds larger than production in 1943. Data are not available on the production of asparagus for processing. However, the total early spring production of asparagus in 1944 is expected to be about 1 percent above that of a year ago, and the 1944 late spring acreage of asparagus is about equal to that of a year ago. Assuming yields on the late acreage are as large this year as last, and that the percentage of the total crop processed does not differ greatly in 1944 compared with 1943, the 1944 canned pack of asparagus would be about the same as last season's.

POTATOES

Supplies Continue Abundant

Supplies of white potatoes continue plentiful. Stocks of old potatoes from the 1943 crop are much larger than normal, and new potatoes from the 1944 crop are moving to market in increasing volume.

Stocks of Old Potatoes Unusually Large

Merchantable stocks of old potatoes in the hands of growers and local dealers, March 1, 1944, amounted to approximately 77 million bushels, 70 percent larger than the comparable stocks of 45 million bushels a year earlier. Normally, such stocks on March 1 are between 55 million and 60 million bushels. Although shipments have been heavy since March 1, stocks, which are located mostly in the 18 surplus late States, continue extremely large for this late in the season.

Production of Early Spring Potatoes Slightly Smaller Than a Year Ago

Production of winter and early spring commercial potatoes, the only crops of new potatoes for which production estimates are available, totals 4,182,000 bushels, 7 percent less than comparable production in 1943 but 3 percent more than the 10-year (1933-42) average production. The winter crop already has moved to market and the early spring crop now is moving in volume. The latter totals 2,688,000 bushels, 5 percent less than the crop last year.

Plantings of Commercial Early Potatoes Slightly Larger This Year Than Last

Plantings of commercial early white potatoes are indicated at 395,000 acres this year, 5.5 percent more than last year and 27 percent more than the 10-year (1933-42) average. The indicated acreage in the late spring States is 215,600 acres, 7 percent more than last year; and in the summer season States it is 137,100 acres, 1.5 percent more than last year. Growing conditions were unfavorable during March and early April in some of the spring States, and resulted in lower yields and a later harvest than otherwise would occur.

Prospective Plantings of Entire 1944 Crop7.3 Percent Smaller Than 1943 Acreage

If farmers carry out their intentions as of March 1, a total of 3,180,000 acres will be planted to white potatoes this year. Such an acreage would be about 10 percent smaller than the 1944 goal, 7.3 percent smaller than the 3,430,000 acres planted in 1943, but 1.4 percent larger than the 10-year (1933-42) average of 3,136,000 acres. The intended decreases are mostly in the 18 surplus late States, where difficulties were experienced during the 1943-44 season in harvesting and marketing record large crops. The prospective acreage under average growing conditions and at the 5-year (1937-41) average yield per harvested acre would result in a crop of 410 million bushels -- a crop 55 million bushels smaller than the 1943 crop and considerably smaller than the production necessary to meet all requirements.

Recent Carlot Shipments of Old StockPotatoes Downward, Those of NewPotatoes Upward

Weekly rail and boat shipments of potatoes from the 1943 crop, which were running from approximately 5,000 to 6,300 cars during January, February, and March 1944, declined sharply from a high of 6,366 cars for the week ended March 18 to 4,005 cars for the week ended April 15, reflecting in part a decline in the shipment of seed-stock potatoes. Weekly shipments of new potatoes were running from about 100 to 200 cars during the first three months of this year, but increased sharply during the last week of March and the first two weeks of April, reaching a total of 922 cars for the week ended April 15. Total carlot shipments of potatoes for the week ended April 15 amounted to 4,927 cars, about one-fourth less than for the week ended March 18, but more than twice the number shipped the corresponding week last year, when stocks of old potatoes were extremely short and the season for new potatoes was several weeks late. Although total shipments have declined during recent weeks, supplies for consumers continue plentiful.

Recent Prices Mostly at Support Levels,Reflecting Large Stocks

Farmers in the United States received an average of \$1.37 a bushel for potatoes on April 15, 1944, about 40 cents less than a year earlier, when stocks were extremely short. Average prices this season advanced moderately during the fall months but declined slightly since early this year, reflecting large stocks, although in some areas prices continued to advance.

Recent prices at country shipping points in Maine, where stocks are especially large, have been at or near support price levels. The support price for premium varieties such as Green Mountain is \$2.20 per 100 pounds, U.S. No. 1 potatoes, sacked and loaded on carrier. Recent prices at country shipping points in North Central surplus areas also have been at or near support price levels, whereas in Idaho they have been near ceiling levels. Large stocks of old potatoes in most surplus areas will tend to hold prices down to support price levels.

The increasing volume of shipments of new stock potatoes during April has been accompanied by sharply declining prices in producing areas. For example, prices for U. S. No. 1 Bliss Triumph potatoes, f.o.b. carrier at Lower Rio Grande Valley points in Texas, declined from \$2.85 per 50-pound sack for the week ended April 1 to \$1.82 for the week ended April 15.

Price-Support Program for 1944 Crop
White Potatoes Now in Effect

Details of the price-support program for 1944 crop white potatoes were announced by the War Food Administration on March 31. The program provides for loans, purchases, and diversions, as did the 1943 program, but excludes price-supporting contracts with potato dealers or distributors.

Concerning early-, intermediate-, and late-crop potatoes other than storage potatoes, prices will be supported by purchase and other arrangements for diverting potatoes to canners, dehydrators, and other processors. However, emphasis is placed on holding to a minimum the volume of potatoes that WFA purchases. The only price-support method to be used for 1944 late-crop storage potatoes consists of commodity loans to producers, associations of producers, and certified dealers, which will be made available from about September 14 to December 15, 1944, supplemented by diversion operations.

The prices used as the basis for the operation of the program relate to carloads of U. S. No. 1 grade potatoes, sacked and loaded f.o.b. carrier at country shipping points, with differentials for potatoes of specified lower grades. These basic prices for 1944 late-crop potatoes are at slightly higher levels than were similar prices for the 1943 late crop, and increase 5 or 10 cents each month instead of 15 cents every two or three months. For example, basic prices in the Red River Valley of North Dakota and Minnesota are set at \$1.75, \$1.80, \$1.90, and \$2.00, respectively, for September, October, November, and December 1944, compared with \$1.70 for September, October, and November 1943, and \$1.85 for December 1943, and January 1944. The more frequent increases in prices this year should result in a more uniform week-to-week market movement of potatoes.

Government Loans in Excess of 5 Million
Dollars Placed on More Than 5.5
Million Bushels 1943 Late Crop
Potatoes

The Government price-support program for white potatoes of the 1943 crop provides for Government loans, purchases, and diversions. At the close of the original loan program, February 15, 1944, loans slightly in excess of 5 million dollars had been placed on a few more than 5.5 million bushels. Through April 8 repayments had been made on loans involving about 1.7 million bushels. Because of the non-recourse nature of the loans, growers and cooperative associations receiving loans are not required to make cash repayments. Regardless of the way in which the loan is settled, the potatoes still must be utilized either as food, in processing, or otherwise.

To provide further support to prices of old stock potatoes in Maine, where supplies are still extremely large and marketing is difficult, a supplemental loan program has recently been developed and inaugurated. In other surplus late State areas, special direct purchases and diversions are being made, in order both to support prices and to facilitate the disposition of the excess stocks of potatoes.

More Than 11,800 Carloads 1943 Crop Potatoes
Purchased This Season by Government
Under Price-Support Program

Under the purchase and diversion features of the price support program for the 1943 crop of potatoes, more than 11,800 carloads were purchased by the War Food Administration through April 15, 1944. Of this number, about 3,300 carloads consisted of late potatoes, most of which originated in Maine, North Dakota, and Minnesota, where stocks have been extremely large this season. These purchases of late potatoes were utilized mostly in domestic relief programs, although substantial quantities were dehydrated or exported.

SWEETPOTATOES

Prospective Plantings of Sweetpotatoes
About as Large as 1943 Acreage

Farmers in 1944 will plant about as many acres to sweetpotatoes as they did in 1943, if they carry out their intentions as of March 1. The 902,000 acres that are in prospect, although about 15 percent short of the 1944 goal, are 13 percent more than the average acreage planted during the 10-year period 1933-42. Although substantial increases in acreage are indicated for North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Alabama, they are nearly offset by decreases in Louisiana, Texas, and Mississippi.

Production on the prospective acreage, assuming average growing conditions and the 5-year (1937-41) average yield per harvested acre, would result in a crop of approximately 75 million bushels. Such a crop, although slightly larger than the crop last year, would be somewhat short of expected requirement.

Shipments Continue Strong Although
Declining Seasonally

Shipments of sweetpotatoes by rail and boat declined seasonally during the past month, but the 141 cars shipped during the week ended April 15 were 70 percent more than the number shipped during the corresponding week a year earlier.

Prices at Ceiling Levels

Recent prices for sweetpotatoes, now under maximum price regulations, were at or near ceiling levels. The average price per bushel received by farmers April 15, 1944, was \$2.29, which is 50 cents more than a year earlier. However, recent wholesale prices at New York City and Chicago were somewhat below those of a year ago, when prices had advanced sharply because of rapidly dwindling supplies of both white potatoes and sweetpotatoes.

Sweetpotatoes were first placed under maximum price regulations December 22, 1943, through Temporary Maximum Price Regulation No. 34, which "froze" prices at all levels of distribution from the country shipper through the retailer, on the basis of the individual seller's "high" for the 5-day period ended December 21, 1943. Effective March 2, 1944, the provisions of this temporary order were continued by Amendment 2 to Maximum Price Regulation 376. However, effective April 27, 1944, retail mark-ups in certain classes of stores are limited to 40 percent over net cost, according to Amendment 15 to Maximum Price Regulation 422.

Price-Support Program Announced
for 1944 Crop

A program to support prices of cured sweetpotatoes of the 1944 crop was announced tentatively by the War Food Administration on January 26, 1944, and affirmed on March 4. The program will consist primarily of price-support loans, to be supplemented, if necessary, by Government purchases in carload lots for relief distribution and by such other surplus diversion programs as may be practicable.

From December 1, 1944, to February 28, 1945, the War Food Administration will make loans available to producers, cooperative associations and dealers on cured sweetpotatoes packed in standard crates, baskets, or hampers in lots of 1,000 bushels or more, in approved storage warehouses, at the following rates per bushel for U. S. No. 1 grade: \$1.50 in December, \$1.65 in January, and \$1.75 in February. For U. S. No. 2 sweetpotatoes containing not less than 75 percent of U. S. No. 1 quality, the loan rates will be 15 cents per bushel less than the rates for U. S. No. 1. The loan rates for U. S. No. 1 sweetpotatoes of the 1944 crop are from 10 to 20 cents a bushel higher than the comparable rates for the 1943 crop.

DRY EDIBLE BEANS

Prospective Acreage of Dry Edible Beans
7.5 Less for 1944 than the Planted
Acreage in 1943

Reports of growers' intentions as of March 1 indicate that 2,528,000 acres of dry beans will be planted in 1944. This compares with the record large plantings of 2,734,000 acres last year and the 10-year (1933-42) average of 1,991,000 acres. This prospective acreage is 17 percent below the national goal of 3,048,000 acres for 1944. Increases in acreage this year compared with last are indicated for Michigan and New York, 5 percent and 6 percent, respectively. Decreases in acreage are indicated throughout the western States, the total of 1,532,000 acres for these States is 12 percent below that in 1943.

If the indicated acreage is planted and State yields per planted acre are in line with the 5-year (1938-42) average, the 1944 crop would total about 22 million bags of 100 pounds each (uncleaned). This size crop would be about equal to last year's and approximately one-half again as large as the 10-year (1932-41) average production.

Prices for the 1944 Crop
to be Supported

Prices for the 1944 crop of dry edible beans will be supported by the War Food Administration from harvest until June 30, 1945. Support will be through direct purchase by the WFA, the offering of price supporting contracts to country shippers, and by a loan program.

Support prices for U. S. No. 1 grade beans of the 1944 crop in carload lots, cleaned and bagged, f.o.b. cars at country shipping points are as follows: Light Red Kidney, Dark Red Kidney, and Western Red Kidney, \$8.00 per 100 pounds; Lima and Baby Lima, \$7.50 per 100 pounds; and Pea, Medium White, Great Northern, Small White, Flat Small White, Pink, Pinto, Cranberry, and Small Red beans, \$6.50 per 100 pounds. U. S. No. 2 grade of these varietal types will be supported at 15 cents less per 100 pounds than the U. S. No. 1 grade. Prices for thresher-run beans will be supported at the prices for U. S. No. 1 grade less an agreed margin for cleaning and handling. These prices are at the same level as the support prices for the 1943 bean crop, except for a 50-cent per 100 pounds increase for the Light Red, Dark Red, and Western Red Kidney beans.

Non-recourse loans will be made available on beans of the 1944 crop stored on farms and in warehouses. Loans are to be at the same level as those for the 1943 crop, rates of \$5.50 per 100 pounds for U. S. No. 1, \$5.35 per 100 pounds for U. S. No. 2, and \$5.10 per 100 pounds for U. S. No. 3. Beans will not be eligible for loans if moisture content is in excess of 18 percent; or if defects, after cleaning, exceed 10 percent.

March 1 Stocks of Dry Beans Smaller
this Year than Last

March 1, 1944, stocks of dry edible beans on farms are indicated to be 1,251,000 bags of 100 pounds each (uncleaned); and those in the usual commercial storage places and under War Food Administration storage contracts in or near producing areas are indicated to total 5,834,000 bags of 100 pounds (cleaned). A year earlier there were 2,816,000 bags in farm storage, and 5,142,000 bags in usual commercial storage. Beans in direct consumption channels are not included in these stocks. The largest decrease in storage stocks March 1, 1944, compared with March 1, 1943, is in beans of the Pea and Medium White varietal types.

WFO 45 Amended to Permit Larger Shipments
of 6 Classes of Dry Beans into
Civilian Trade Channels

Effective April 1, 1944, the War Food Administration, through Amendment 3 to War Food Order 45, reduced the set-aside percentages on 6 classes of beans from 100 percent to 25 percent of deliveries into civilian trade channels. Classes of beans affected are Pea, Great Northern, Flat Small White, Small Red, Pinto, and Cranberry beans. This reduction in quantities to be set aside for Government purchase will more nearly permit civilian requirements to be met.

Prices for the 1943 Bean Crop Continue
at Government Support and Ceiling
Price Levels

Prices received by farmers for the 1943 dry bean crop have varied only slightly thus far this season, reflecting returns at the support price level. This is to be expected since support prices for all principal varieties of beans, with the exception of Standard limas, are above the ceiling prices on that portion of the 1943 bean crop entering civilian trade channels and equal the ceiling prices on that portion sold to the Government. The Government has absorbed the difference between ceiling and support prices on civilian sales. The average price received by farmers March 15 for dry edible beans was \$6.10 per 100 pounds, 13 percent higher than the price a year earlier.

DRY FIELD PEAS

Acreage of Dry Peas Expected to be
Smaller in 1944 than in 1943

Prospective plantings of dry field peas in 1944 are indicated to be 771,000 acres in the nine States now producing this crop. Austrian winter pea and cowpea acreages are not included in this estimate. The indicated 1944 acreage of dry peas is about 7 percent below last year's planted acreage, and 14 percent below the national goal of 895,000 acres; but is almost 2-1/2 times as large as the 10-year (1933-42) average. Prospective 1944 acreages in Washington and Idaho, the two principal producing States, are 5 percent and 10 percent smaller, respectively, than the planted acreages in these States in 1943. An abnormally large acreage of peas in the Palouse area of Washington and Idaho the last 2 years, necessitating some shift back to small grain and fallow because of agronomic conditions peculiar to that area, probably accounts for most of the decrease in acreage of dry peas indicated for these two States.

Assuming the prospective acreage is planted and yields in each of the States are about equal to their respective 5-year (1938-42) averages, a crop of about 8 million bags of 100 pounds (uncleaned) would be produced. Approximately 10.9 million bags were produced in 1943, compared with 7.4 million bags in 1942, and a 2.6 million bag average during the 10-year period 1932-41. The large increases in production in 1942, 1943, and indicated for 1944 have been in response to hugh wartime requirements.

Support Prices for 1944 Crop
of Dry Peas

Prices for the 1944 crop of smooth-type peas of the Alaska, Bluebell, Scotch Green, First and Best, Marrowfat, Colorado White, and White Canada varieties will be supported by purchase by the War Food Administration pursuant to procedures which it will announce. Purchases in carload lots, cleaned and bagged, f.o.b. cars at country shipping points, will be made at \$5.65 per 100 pounds U. S. No. 1 grade and \$5.40 per 100 pounds U. S. No. 2 grade.

The War Food Administration also will purchase 1944 crop dry wrinkled type peas of the Alderman, Perfection, Profusion, Surprise, and Thomas Laxton varieties if these peas are grown for canning purposes under approved contracts but could not be used for canning as green peas. Prices for these wrinkled type peas will be supported at \$3.50 per 100 pounds U. S. No. 1 grade and \$3.25 per 100 pounds U. S. No. 2 grade. Support prices for the 1944 crop compared with those in effect on the 1943 crop are at the same level for smooth peas but 75 cents per 100 pounds lower for the wrinkled types.

Non-recourse loans, as a feature of the price support program for dry peas of the 1944 crop, will be made available to producers of smooth peas of the varietal types Alaska, Bluebell, Scotch Green, First and Best, Marrowfat, and White Canada. These loans will be made at the same level as for the 1943 crop -- \$4.50 per 100 pounds U. S. No. 1, \$4.25 per 100 pounds U. S. No. 2, and \$4.00 per 100 pounds thrasher-run peas on net weight of sound whole peas, plus split peas and cracked seed coats not in excess of the amount permitted in U. S. No. 2. Thrasher-run peas containing bleached and other classes in excess of the maximum limits permitted under U. S. No. 2 will not be eligible for loan.

March 1 Stocks of Dry Peas at High Level

Stocks of dry peas as of March 1, 1944, totaled 557,000 bags of 100 pounds each (uncleaned) on farms and 4,212,000 bags (cleaned) in usual commercial storage places and War Food Administration storage places in producing States. March 1 stocks in 1943 were 214,000 bags on farms, and 2,283,000 bags in usual commercial storage places.

Prices Steady this Season

Prices received by farmers for dry peas have remained relatively stable thus far this season, 1943-44, approximately at the support level, and similar to the price behavior of dry beans. The average price received for dry peas by farmers on March 15, 1944, was \$4.79 per 100 pounds. This compares with \$4.89 on October 15, 1943, and January 15, 1944, and with \$4.75 on March 15, 1943.

Table 2.- Vegetables, frozen: Cold storage holdings,
April 1, 1944, with comparisons

Commodity	1943				1944			
	: Average:		:		:		:	
	: 1939-43:		:		:		:	
	: Apr. 1:	Apr. 1:	Dec. 1:	Jan. 1:	Feb. 1:	Mar. 1:	Apr. 1	
	: 1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	
	: pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	
Asparagus	4,542	4,007	5,815	5,554	4,789	4,009	3,148	
Beans, lima	10,687	10,359	11,710	10,812	10,010	8,499	6,956	
Beans, snap	4,034	3,113	15,204	14,819	13,951	12,284	10,683	
Broccoli, green	1,502	1,360	1,768	2,046	2,217	2,861	3,362	
Corn, sweet	4,796	3,984	16,954	16,235	14,736	13,116	10,679	
Peas, green	18,409	20,295	49,243	44,317	39,599	35,325	27,251	
Spinach	4,305	5,321	11,365	11,869	11,518	10,476	9,711	
Other vegetables	5,391	10,579	28,080	32,862	28,407	28,918	26,922	
Classification not reported:	5,329	11,460	55,370	47,289	44,431	38,332	31,055	
Total	58,995	70,478	195,509	185,803	169,658	153,820	129,767	

Compiled from reports of the Office of Distribution.

Table 3.- Truck crops for market: Commercial acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1933-42, annual 1943, and indicated 1944

Crop and seasonal group	Acreage		Prelimi- nary 1944	Unit	Yield per acre:			Production			
	Average 1933-42	1943			Aver- age 1933- 42	1943	1944	Aver- age 1933- 42	1943	Indi- cated 1944	
	Acres	Acres			Acres				Thous.	Thous.	Thous.
Artichokes:											
Winter	9,300	8,700	7,250	Box	97	95	105	890	826	761	
Asparagus: 1/											
Early spring ..	90,140	89,170	88,160	Crate	87	95	97	7,810	8,509	8,565	
Late spring ..	30,710	43,280	43,080	"	115	114	---	3,556	4,931	---	
Total	120,850	132,450	131,240	"	94	101	---	11,367	13,440	---	
Lima beans:											
Winter	2/ 1,730	2,300	1,500	Bu.	2/ 62	45	70	2/ 96	104	105	
Spring	7,330	7,500	7,500	"	53	61	---	392	454	---	
Snap beans:											
Winter	25,930	23,000	30,000	"	80	80	75	2,062	1,840	2,250	
Early spring ..	22,600	22,100	28,200	"	86	103	85	1,912	2,286	2,408	
Mid-spring ...	31,970	29,300	24,200	"	73	72	76	2,321	2,103	1,847	
Beets:											
Winter	6,680	7,600	9,200	"	132	140	160	883	1,064	1,472	
Spring	2,450	1,450	1,450	"	183	163	166	446	237	240	
Cabbage: 3/											
Winter	46,770	49,610	78,800	Ton	5.41	5.62	6.37	257.0	278.9	502.2	
Early spring ..	16,430	15,050	17,900	"	5.01	3.62	3.54	81.2	54.5	63.4	
Late spring ...	12,480	8,940	10,060	"	5.20	5.68	---	64.7	50.8	---	
Early summer ..	13,560	13,300	4/ 13,380	"	6.25	6.23	---	83.3	82.9	---	
Late summer ...	22,660	17,330	4/ 17,800	"	7.10	6.99	---	160.9	121.1	---	
Early fall											
(Domestic) ...	30,600	30,550	4/ 36,700	"	8.48	7.61	---	259.9	232.5	---	
Early fall											
(Danish)	33,300	32,100	4/ 41,620	"	8.61	8.64	---	287.6	277.2	---	
Cantaloups:											
Spring (total):	19,500	10,000	17,050	Crate	129	171	---	2,520	1,706	---	
Carrots:											
Winter	19,330	32,150	33,400	Bu.	209	242	232	4,114	7,765	7,760	
Spring	7,660	15,200	10,600	"	384	383	355	2,934	5,822	3,759	
Cauliflower:											
Winter	8,750	7,030	9,000	Crate	253	280	281	2,215	1,970	2,531	
Spring	8,890	7,040	7,580	"	302	314	309	2,688	2,213	2,346	
Celery:											
Winter	6,450	7,550	8,600	Crate	573	492	582	3,688	3,716	5,003	
Spring	3,910	3,750	4,550	"	588	578	578	2,303	2,167	2,629	
Cucumbers:											
Early spring ..	10,280	6,200	10,000	Bu.	82	75	91	825	462	910	
Eggplant:											
Winter	2/ 180	550	1,000	"	2/ 325	450	175	2/ 60	248	175	
Spring	770	700	1,200	"	350	300	300	266	210	360	
Escarole:											
Winter	920	1,450	1,200	Hamper	465	350	425	416	508	510	
Kale:											
Winter	1,690	1,650	2,350	Bu.	356	445	350	588	734	822	
Lettuce:											
Winter	37,140	34,700	39,400	Crate	134	165	168	4,890	5,723	6,613	
Early spring ..	48,620	37,960	52,010	"	119	173	159	5,751	6,565	8,283	

Continued -

Table 3.- Truck crops for market: Commercial acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1933-42, annual 1943, and indicated 1944 - Continued

Crop and seasonal group	Acreage			Unit	Yield per acre:			Production		
	Average	1943	Prelimi-		Aver-	1943	1944	Aver-	1943	Indi
	1933-42		nary 1944		age			age		cate
	Acres	Acres	Acres		1933- 42			1933- 42		194
								Thous.	Thous.	Thou
Onions:										
Early spring ..	46,560	28,000	70,600	Sack	39	61	40	1,720	1,708	2,82
Late spring ...	18,290	20,650	19,250	"	56	43	---	1,013	889	---
Early summer ..	8,410	5,500	4/ 7,220	"	139	138	---	1,156	761	---
Late summer ...	56,730	54,740	4/ 72,920	"	208	209	---	11,799	11,458	---
Total	129,990	108,890	169,990	"	123	136	---	15,687	14,816	---
Green peas:										
Winter	14,420	8,000	12,000	Bu.	78	46	50	1,062	370	60
Early spring ..	44,270	22,550	26,670	"	68	107	87	2,947	2,422	2,32
Green peppers:										
Winter	2,170	2,900	3,600	"	262	310	275	597	899	99
Spring	2,900	2,700	3,400	"	257	220	225	716	594	76
Shallots:										
Winter	2/ 2,820	2,700	2,100	"	2/111	94	100	2/ 313	254	21
Spring	2/ 2,370	2,300	2,100	"	2/127	85	100	2/ 296	196	21
Total	2/ 5,180	5,000	4,200	"	2/118	90	100	2/ 610	450	42
Spinach:										
Winter	43,700	43,000	51,450	"	165	156	170	7,201	6,718	8,72
Spring	10,370	11,990	12,400	"	287	288	292	2,965	3,451	3,62
Tomatoes:										
Winter	13,280	5,900	13,000	"	141	140	125	1,872	826	1,62
Early spring ..	34,260	44,350	61,900	"	83	84	93	2,885	3,712	5,76
Watermelons:										
Late spring ..	28,210	16,500	33,000	Melon:	344	393		9,636	6,482	---
Early summer ..	196,720	108,300	4/167,050	"	231	311		45,224	33,657	---
Late summer ...	27,510	16,900	4/ 20,960	"	363	462		9,974	7,809	---
Total acreage estimated to date:										
Winter	239,780	238,790	303,850							
Spring	500,970	446,680	552,860							
Summer	325,590	216,070	299,330							
Fall	63,900	62,650	78,320							
Total	1,132,290	964,190	1,234,360							
Total estimated: to date where 1944 produc- tion is indicated	624,230	578,600	726,770	Ton	2.94	3.49	3.50	1,838	2,017	2,54
Garlic: 5/										
Spring	1,880	1,700	1,300	Sack	13.5	14.1	---	25	24	---
Summer	2,160	1,650	2,100	"	60.9	65.0	---	133	107	---
Total, 3 States ...	4,050	3,350	3,400	"	38.8	39.1	---	158	131	---

1/ Estimates include asparagus for processing in California and undetermined quantities in other States. 2/ Short-time average. 3/ Includes cabbage used in the manufacture of kraut. 4/ Intended. 5/ Not included in totals above.

Table 4.- Truck crops: Unweighted average wholesale price at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U. S. No. 1 when quoted), indicated periods in 1944, with comparisons

Market and commodity	Unit	1943				1944			
		Month	Week ended	Month		Month		Week ended	
		Mar.	Apr. 17	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr. 15	
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
New York									
Beans, lima, Fla.	Bu.	8.84	7.67	8.20	6.18	6.10	5.66	5.83	
Beans, snap, green, Fla.	"	6.34	6.26	2.82	4.91	3.88	3.57	4.12	
Beets:									
Bunched, Texas	1/2 L.A. crt.	3.17	2.77	2.16	2.32	1.66	1.62	1.95	
Topped, "	50-lb. sack	3.42	3.73	1.80	1.67	1.47	1.36	1.24	
" eastern	Bu.	1.80	2.66	1.67	1.59	1.04	.88	.84	
Broccoli, western	Pony crt.	7.66	9.29	6.77	5.67	3.61	4.96	6.85	
" eastern	12-bunch crt.	---	---	2.17	---	---	---	---	
Cabbage:									
Dom. round, Fla.	50-lb. sack	3.49	3.76	1.97	1.98	1.75	1.47	1.98	
Danish, N. Y.	" " "	2.14	---	1.81	1.97	2.13	---	---	
Carrots:									
Bunched, western	L.A. crt.	4.75	3.67	5.80	5.74	4.50	4.34	3.12	
" Texas	" " "	4.22	3.22	---	5.48	3.70	3.35	---	
Topped, nearby 1/2	Bu.	1.64	1.90	1.86	2.08	1.64	1.78	1.38	
" N. Y.	"	2/ 1.94	---	2.48	2.26	---	---	---	
Cauliflower:									
Western	Pony crt.	3.85	4.42	3.05	2.55	2.36	3.39	3.15	
Catskill, N.Y.	12-head crt.	---	---	2.98	---	---	---	---	
Celery, G. Heart:									
Fla.	16-in. crt.	4.57	4.33	5.31	4.89	2.97	2.92	2.78	
Calif.	1/2 crt.	---	---	5.00	5.69	---	---	---	
Cucumbers, Fla.	Bu.	3/ 12.64	3/ 7.21	6.99	10.07	---	6.14	5.50	
" Ind. 3/	1-doz. carton	2.60	1.61	---	2.65	2.53	---	---	
Eggplant, Fla. 3/	1-1/2 bu. crt.	7.45	8.17	4.46	5.38	4.93	4.54	2.78	
" " 3/	Bu.	4.90	6.00	3.20	3.02	3.26	3.08	---	
Kale, Va.	"	2.01	2.29	1.10	1.25	1.09	.87	.82	
" nearby 1/	"	---	---	.86	---	---	---	---	
Lettuce, western	L.A. crt.	5.04	6.84	5.00	4.84	4.08	3.93	4.76	
Onions:									
Bermuda, Texas	50-lb. sack	---	3.53	---	---	---	---	3.43	
Spanish, western 4/	" " "	3.24	---	2.78	2.87	---	---	---	
Yellow, N. Y.	" " "	2.52	2.89	2.55	2.60	2.74	2.81	2.95	
Peas, green:									
Western	Bu.	5/ 4.69	5/ 4.93	4.93	4.84	4.76	3.29	3.38	
Fla.	"	---	---	4.93	4.42	4.08	---	---	
Peppers, green:									
Fla.	1-1/2 bu. crt.	10.06	9.00	4.47	5.82	4.91	3.19	3.58	
"	Bu.	6.75	5.69	3.16	4.29	3.51	2.06	2.22	
Spinach:									
Savoy, Texas	"	1.94	1.80	1.65	1.85	1.41	1.47	1.56	
Squash, yellow, Fla.	"	7.44	4.56	3.80	4.10	3.92	3.21	4.65	
Tomatoes, Fla. 6/	Lug	4.71	5.25	4.57	5.11	5.32	4.68	3.88	

Continued -

Table 4.- Truck crops: Unweighted average wholesale price at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U. S. No. 1 when quoted), indicated periods in 1944, with comparisons - Continued

Market and commodity	Unit	1943				1944			
		Month	Week ended	Month		Month		Week ended	
		Mar.	Apr. 17	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr. 1	
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	
<u>Chicago</u>									
Beans, snap, green, Fla.	Bu.	6.58	6.33	3.26	4.96	3.91	3.41	4.1	
Beets:									
Bunched, Texas ...	1/2 L.A. crt.	2.78	2.28	1.78	1.83	1.52	1.43	1.4	
Topped, Ill.	Bu.	---	2.50	1.53	1.31	1.01	.86	.7	
Broccoli, western ...	Pony crt.	7.09	8.50	5.99	4.91	3.04	4.64	6.7	
Cabbage:									
Dom. round, Tex. ...	50-lb. sack	3.35	3.67	1.98	2.01	1.30	1.44	1.8	
" " western:	" " "	5.28	---	2.08	2.09	1.55	1.53	---	
Danish, N. Y.	" " "	---	---	2.02	2.11	2.02	---	---	
" Wis.	" " "	---	---	1.94	2.08	---	---	---	
Carrots:									
Bunched, western ...	L.A. crt.	3.86	3.03	5.18	4.97	3.94	3.39	2.8	
Topped, Texas	50-lb. sack	1.98	1.80	---	2.18	1.53	1.58	1.4	
" Ill.	Bu.	1.68	---	1.64	1.61	1.34	1.35	1.1	
Cauliflower, western:	Pony crt.	3.60	3.76	2.48	2.36	2.25	3.11	2.8	
Celery, G. Heart:									
Fla.	16-in. crt.	4.46	4.20	5.09	4.82	3.26	3.23	2.9	
Calif.	1/2 crt.	4.14	---	4.59	4.72	3.18	4.08	---	
Mich.	" "	---	---	2.74	3.23	---	---	---	
"	Square crt.	---	---	1.12	1.39	2.25	---	---	
Cucumbers, Fla.	Bu.	3/11.69	8.00	7/7.94	10.76	8/11.17	6.16	6.1	
" hothouse 3/:	1-doz. carton:	2.40	1.83	2.52	2.69	2.51	---	---	
Eggplant, Fla.	1-1/2 bu. crt.:	---	3.22	4.95	6.11	4.80	4.69	2.1	
Lettuce, western ...	L.A. crt.	4.65	6.44	4.57	4.36	3.26	3.54	4.0	
Onions:									
Bermuda, Texas ...	50-lb. sack	---	3.37	---	---	---	---	4.2	
Spanish, western ...	" " "	---	---	2.54	2.63	---	---	---	
Yellow, midwest. ...	" " "	2.53	3.08	2.24	2.36	2.35	2.56	---	
Peas, green:									
Western	Bu.	---	---	---	4.54	3.78	3.20	3.4	
Mexico	"	4.64	---	---	4.42	4.01	2.93	2.8	
Peppers, green, Fla.:	"	10.04	11.00	5.26	7.11	6.20	4.31	3.1	
Spinach, flat type, Texas	"	1.83	1.67	1.26	1.58	1.12	1.27	1.2	
Squash:									
White, Fla.	Bu.	---	---	---	---	3.03	2.64	2.5	
Acorn, Ill.	"	---	---	.74	.94	---	---	---	
Marblehead, Ill. ...	L.A. crt.	---	---	1.86	2.32	2.34	---	---	
Tomatoes, Fla.:									
6x6 and larger, ...	Lug	5.06	---	5.34	5.36	6.05	5.24	5/4.3	
6x7	"	4.19	---	---	4.53	5.26	4.11	5/3.1	
Average all sizes:	"	4.53	---	5.17	5.07	5.59	4.94	5/4.0	
Repacked, Fla. ...	"	5.94	5/6.00	5.92	5/6.48	7.14	6.91	5.1	

Compiled from records of the Office of Distribution.

1/ Principally Long Island and New Jersey. 2/ Pa. 3/ Fancy grade. 4/ 3-inch minimum. 5/ Mexico. 6/ Average of range of all sizes. 7/ Waxed. 8/ Average for 1 week.

Table 5.- Truck crops and potatoes: Carlot (rail and boat) shipments from originating points in the United States, indicated periods in 1944, with comparisons 1/

Commodity	1943			1944			
	Month	Week	Month	Month		Week	
		Ended				Ended	
	Mar.	Apr. 17	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr. 15
	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars
Asparagus	599	352	---	---	1	344	396
Bears, snap and lima	190	333	1,440	409	853	1,097	304
Beets	178	48	171	207	224	385	99
Broccoli	167	18	209	336	443	345	21
Cabbage	2,484	353	2,122	2,769	3,389	4,250	1,072
Carrots	2,923	821	1,294	1,824	1,664	2,853	714
Cauliflower	756	41	973	1,264	1,102	1,255	153
Celery	2,498	299	2,230	2,610	2,407	3,269	560
Corn, green	---	---	2	---	1	---	---
Cucumbers	2	28	49	4	---	24	30
Eggplant	4	0	16	5	2	22	0
Escarole	161	52	249	319	205	189	39
Greens, except spinach	166	19	158	244	267	195	22
Lettuce and romaine	5,887	1,204	5,964	5,696	6,344	7,243	1,469
Mixed vegetables	5,019	824	4,806	6,318	5,849	5,959	1,013
Onions	1,400	1,043	1,610	1,357	1,291	1,109	738
Peas, green	12	181	103	115	197	243	107
Peppers, green	80	26	202	179	263	465	82
Spinach	1,515	180	1,089	1,206	1,546	1,038	169
Sweetpotatoes	556	81	1,051	880	720	764	141
Tomatoes	362	26	802	641	700	1,759	289
Turnips and rutabagas	108	6	60	127	64	32	9
Total of above	25,067	5,935	24,600	26,510	27,532	32,840	7,427
Potatoes, total	23,593	2,523	18,235	24,800	24,245	26,457	4,927
Early, new potatoes	721	370	225	480	684	720	922
Intermediate	4	0	21	41	2	27	2
Late, surplus	22,693	2,141	17,899	24,013	23,252	25,240	3,937
Late, other	175	12	90	266	307	470	66
Grand total	48,660	8,458	42,835	51,310	51,777	59,297	12,354

Compiled from reports of the Office of Distribution.

1/ Does not include shipments by motortruck. Includes Government purchases.

Table 6.- Potatoes, commercial early: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1933-42, annual 1943, and indicated 1944

Seasonal group:	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Average:	1943	1944	Average:	1943	1944	Average:	1943	1944
	1933-42:			1933-42:			1933-42:		
							1,000	1,000	1,000
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Bu.	Bu.	Bu.	bu.	bu.	bu.
Winter	11,860	12,500	15,500	108	134	96	1,313	1,675	1,494
Early spring ..	23,670	26,100	26,800	116	108	100	2,742	2,822	2,688
Late spring ...	147,660	200,700	215,600	142	170	---	21,232	34,088	---
Summer	127,980	135,100	1/137,100	155	172	---	19,786	23,185	---
Total	311,170	374,400	395,000	144	165	---	45,073	61,770	---

1/ Intended.

Table 7.- Potatoes: Acreage planted, goals, and yield per planted acre, average 1933-42, annual 1943, and indicated 1944 1/

Producing area	Planted acreage			Goals	Yield per planted acre		
	Average:	1943	Indi- cated 1944		1944 indicated:	Average:	1943
	1933-42:		1944		1944 as a per- centage of goal	1933-42:	
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Percent	Bu. Bu.
12 early States 2/:	459.3	650.6	639.9	98.4	639.0	100.1	93.5 102.0
7 intermediate States	290.7	312.9	298.3	95.3	301.2	99.0	109.0 111.1
18 surplus late States:							
Total	1,999.7	2,106.6	1,910.8	90.7	2,158.0	88.5	126.5 155.8
3 Eastern	568.0	604.0	585.0	96.9	619.0	94.5	166.4 201.7
5 Central	938.0	902.0	791.0	87.7	962.0	82.2	81.8 97.7
10 Western	494.1	600.6	534.8	89.0	577.0	92.7	164.5 196.8
12 other late States:							
Total	386.1	359.6	331.0	92.0	382.3	86.6	101.2 98.5
5 New England ..	60.8	77.6	71.8	92.5	81.5	88.1	150.9 141.1
5 Central	318.0	269.0	248.0	92.2	289.0	85.8	92.0 84.9
2 Southwestern ..	6.8	13.0	11.2	86.2	11.8	94.9	89.0 126.9
30 late States ...	2,385.8	2,466.2	2,241.8	90.9	2,540.3	88.2	122.4 147.4
37 late and inter- mediate States ...	2,676.5	2,779.1	2,540.1	91.4	2,841.5	89.4	120.9 143.3
United States ..	3,135.8	3,429.7	3,180.0	92.7	3/3,519.0	90.4	116.8 135.5

1/ Except for California, the estimates shown for each State under a particular group cover the entire crop, whether commercial or noncommercial, early or late.

2/ Estimated crop for California covers the early commercial crop only.

3/ The sum of the State goals does not equal the national goal because of minor adjustments or corrections in the State figures since announcement of the United States goals on November 11, 1943.

Table 8.- Potatoes: Unweighted price, indicated unit, for stock of generally good quality and condition (U. S. No. 1 and U. S. No. 1 size A when quoted) at shipping points and terminal markets, indicated periods in 1944, with comparisons

		1943				1944			
Location, season, and variety	Unit	Month	Week ended	Month	Month	Month	Month	Week ended	
		Mar.	Apr. 17	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr. 15	
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	
<u>Shipping points</u>									
944 crop:									
Lake Okeechobee section, Fla.	50-lb. sack:	---	---	---	2.02	---	---	---	
Ft. Myers, Fla.	" "	---	---	---	---	2.48	---	---	
Dade County, Fla.	" "	---	---	---	---	2.63	2.79	---	
Lower Rio Grande Valley, Tex.	" "	---	1.94	---	---	---	---	1.82	
Hastings, Fla.	100-lb. sack:	---	---	---	---	---	---	4.40	
943 crop:									
San Luis Valley, Colo.:	" "	2.45	---	2.59	2.64	2.69	2.79	---	
Idaho Falls, Idaho ...:	" "	---	---	2.42	2.58	2.57	2.74	---	
Aroostook County points, Maine	" "	2.42	2.50	2.18	2.39	2.25	2.21	2.20	
West Mich. points 1/ ..	" "	---	---	2.31	2.29	2.12	1.95	2.17	
Rochester, N. Y.	" "	2.65	---	2.43	2.60	2.29	2.08	2.03	
Red River Valley, N.D.:	" "	---	---	1.98	2.08	1.91	---	---	
Waupaca, Wis.	" "	---	---	1.99	2.14	2.07	---	2/1.98	
<u>Terminal markets</u>									
<u>New York</u>									
944 crop:									
Bliss Triumph, Fla. ...	Bu.	3.04	---	---	2.83	3.13	3.59	3.33	
" " " " ..	50-lb. sack:	2.83	3/3.30	---	2.56	3.03	3.45	3.50	
Katahdin, Fla.	100-lb. sack:	---	---	---	---	---	---	4.88	
943 crop:									
Green Mountain, L.I. ..	" "	3.42	---	3.08	3.03	2.85	2.77	2.94	
" " Maine ..	" "	3.46	3.70	2.69	2.92	2.75	2.69	2.76	
Katahdin, Maine	" "	3.46	3.70	2.66	2.94	2.70	2.62	2.66	
Russet Burbank, Idaho :	" "	3.87	---	3.77	4.02	4.08	4.09	4.55	
<u>Chicago</u>									
944 crop:									
Bliss Triumph, Fla.	Bu.	2.92	---	---	2.83	3.31	3.37	---	
" " " " ..	50-lb. sack:	2.82	---	---	2.67	3.11	3.45	3.71	
" " Tex.	" "	---	4/3.08	---	---	---	---	2.67	
943 crop:									
Bliss Triumph, Nebr. ..	100-lb. sack:	5/3.77	---	---	3.44	3.07	3.58	3.76	
" " Minn. :	" "	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
and N.D. 6/ ..	" "	7/3.25	---	2.15	2.40	2.16	2.04	2.26	
Cobbler, all States ...	" "	7/3.62	---	8/2.27	8/2.46	8/2.10	8/1.99	2.10	
Red McClure, Colo.	" "	8/3.90	---	3.39	3.44	3.46	3.57	---	
Russet Burbank, Idaho :	" "	---	4.05	3.19	3.36	3.40	3.54	3.74	

Compiled from records of the Office of Distribution.

1/ Russet Rurals, mostly U. S. No. 1, size A, 2/ Stevens Point, Wis. 3/ Texas.

4/ Victory grade. 5/ Maine Katahdins. 6/ Unwashed stock, 80 percent or more

U. S. No. 1 grade. 7/ Seed stock. 8/ Less than 10 quotations.

Table 9.- Sweetpotatoes: Acreage planted, goals, and yield per planted acre, average 1933-42, annual 1943, and indicated 1944

Group of States	Planted acreage				Goals		Yield per planted acre	
	Average 1933-42	1943	Indicated 1944	as a percent of 1943	1944	indicated 1944	Average 1933-42	1943
	acres	acres	acres	Pct.	acres	Pct.	Bu.	Bu.
4 Central Atlantic 1/	62.0	59.0	60.0	101.7	65.5	91.6	126.2	95.4
4 Lower Atlantic 2/	271.0	311.0	325.0	104.5	370.0	87.8	83.4	82.6
8 South Central 3/	432.0	495.0	485.0	98.0	583.0	83.2	77.4	76.6
5 North Central 4/	23.6	21.0	19.5	92.9	20.0	97.5	85.9	86.6
California	11.0	12.0	12.0	100.0	16.0	75.0	114.0	125.0
United States	800.7	898.0	901.5	100.4	1,056.5	85.3	84.0	80.8
1/ N. J., Del., Md., and Va. 2/ N. C., S. C., Ga., and Fla. 3/ Ky., Tenn., Ala., Miss., Ark., La., Okla., and Tex. 4/ Ind., Ill., Mo., Iowa, and Kans.								
5/ Includes 2,000 acres in W. Va.								

Table 10.- Sweetpotatoes: Unweighted wholesale price per bushel for stock of generally good quality and condition (U.S. No. 1 when quoted) at New York and Chicago, indicated periods in 1944, with comparisons

Market and type	1943				1944			
	Month	Week ended	Month		Month		Week ended	
	Mar.	Apr. 17	Dec.		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr. 15
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars		Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
<u>New York</u>								
Golden:								
Maryland	3.69	4.20	4.55	4.80	4.77	5.21	4.89	
New Jersey	3.44	---	4.11	4.46	4.30	4.62	4.62	
Jersey:								
New Jersey	3.25	4.22	4.08	4.15	4.11	4.19	4.52	
Porto Rican:								
North Carolina and								
South Carolina	3.70	4.54	4.04	4.30	4.30	4.29	4.45	
Louisiana	---	---	---	---	4.16	4.35	4.34	
Average all varieties	3.46	4.19	4.12	4.30	4.29	4.48	4.52	
<u>Chicago</u>								
Jersey:								
Illinois	---	---	4.27	4.51	4.56	---	---	
Indiana	---	---	4.34	---	---	---	---	
Nancy Hall:								
Illinois	4.33	---	3.45	3.33	3.48	3.81	3.84	
Tennessee	4.01	5.07	3.08	2.96	2.82	2.97	3.10	
Porto Rican:								
Illinois	4.36	---	4.00	3.95	4.03	4.12	3.94	
Tennessee	4.11	5.32	3.39	3.43	3.91	3.55	3.90	
Louisiana	4.40	---	3.99	3.99	3.93	3.93	4.02	
	4.25	5.09	3.72	3.68	3.69	3.58	3.58	

Table 11.- Beans, dry, edible: Acreage planted, goals, and yield per planted acre, average 1933-42, annual 1943, and indicated 1944

Group of States	Planted acreage				Goals		Yield per planted acre	
	Average 1933-42	1943	Indi- cated 1944	1944 as a per- centage of 1943	1944	1944 indi- cated as a per- centage of goal	Average 1933-42	1943
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Percent	Pounds	Pounds
Maine, Vt., N. Y.,								
Mich., Wis., and								
Minn.	761	873	912	104.5	1,188	76.8	760	812
Nebr., Mont., Idaho,								
Wyo., Wash., Oreg.,								
N. Dak., and								
S. Dak. 1/	220	478	399	83.5	459	86.9	1,251	1,136
Kans., Colo.,								
N. Mex., Ariz.,								
Utah, and Tex. 2/ ..	662	941	801	85.1	875	91.5	322	437
Calif.	350	442	416	94.1	500	83.2	1,272	1,169
United States	1,991	2,734	2,528	92.5	3,048	82.9	760	797

1/ Includes N. Dak. and S. Dak. for 1943 and 1944 only. 2/ Includes Tex. for 1943 and 1944 only. 3/ The sum of the State goals does not equal the national goal because of minor adjustments or corrections in the State figures since announcement of the United States goals on November 11, 1943.

Table 12.- Peas, dry, field: Acreage planted, goals, and yield per planted acre, average 1933-42, annual 1943, and indicated 1944 1/

State	Planted acreage				Goals		Yield per planted acre	
	Average 1933-42	1943	Indi- cated 1944	1944 as a per- centage of 1943	1944	1944 indi- cated as a per- centage of goal	Average 1933-42	1943
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Percent	Pounds	Pounds
Michigan	10	2	2	100	4	50.0	652	300
Wisconsin	11	8	6	75	9	66.7	746	875
N. Dakota	---	11	11	100	10	110.0	---	864
Montana	26	56	42	75	60	70.0	1,093	1,120
Idaho	81	250	225	90	313	71.9	1,061	1,330
Wyoming	---	2	2	100	2	100.0	---	1,200
Colorado	47	51	51	100	52	98.1	279	533
Washington	141	398	378	95	370	102.2	1,102	1,421
Oregon	2/ 6	54	54	100	75	72.0	2/ 1,264	1,472
Nine States	321	832	771	92.7	895	86.1	943	1,306

1/ In principal commercial producing States. Includes peas grown for seed.

2/ Short-time average.

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